



ST MATTHEW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, NORTHWOOD

32 HALLOWELL ROAD, NORTHWOOD, HA6 1DW

'Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations...' [Matt 28:19]

29TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME (OCT 18TH - 25TH)

Fr Brian writes,

After a long wait, last weekend we began our celebrations of First Holy Communion with our children and their families. Each of the Masses were beautiful, and we congratulate our candidates. It is wonderful to have a reason to celebrate and rejoice as a community. The celebrations continue this weekend and next weekend. Due to some re-arranging and changed plans, fewer of the regular Sunday Masses are now affected than initially anticipated. The remaining Masses with First Holy Communion celebrations are noted in the Mass list overleaf. The first of our Confirmations will happen this Saturday also, with the majority being celebrated in a block in November.

Of course, for those who receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time in these weeks, this is a wonderful moment, but it is an opportunity for the wider community to reflect also. Jesus comes to us in this special and miraculous way every time we come to Mass, and we have all had a period of separation from this gift during the last few months. Since we have returned, Mass has been quieter, shorter and a little less 'interactive', but there has been a deeper sense of reverence also. We all missed celebrating together and we still note the absence of our full community and our members who are not yet able to join us.

Whilst in the time of enforced separation, technology helped us remain connected and to pray together, it was not a complete substitute. There is a need for us to gather physically and to receive The Lord in reality, which is a profoundly Catholic instinct. Despite its inadequacy and limitations, however, we do know that many of our brothers and sisters who remain at home are helped by following Mass online. There are many opportunities across the internet to 'visit' churches and shrines for Mass virtually, but access to our own parish community is still important. To this end, there have been many questions about the future of the live-streaming in St Matthew's, which has been rather amateur in its offering up until now. I am actively canvassing opinions, therefore, about whether there is a need and an appetite for this to continue, and whether the parish might invest in proper streaming technology for our Sunday Masses. There are a variety of alternative models that may be considered, and which would have to be costed. Doing it properly would also require ongoing assistance in its operation week by week. Please let me know if you have views on this subject.

We will shortly be entering November, with its focus on prayers for the dead. The traditional envelopes for the November Dead List are available from this weekend. One Mass in the parish every day in November is offered for the Holy Souls. I know that this makes it difficult for anyone who has a special date in November such as an anniversary and wants a Mass said. For anyone who in this position, I have an arrangement with a Priest who is working in non-parish Ministry who will be very happy to say Masses for special intentions, but they will not be celebrated in our parish. Please feel free to enquire about this if you are happy for the Mass you request to be celebrated elsewhere.

Fr Brian

General Parish Notices and information.

ALTERATIONS TO MASS AND SERVICE TIMES:

From November, Sunday Mass will be returned to 11:15am — once our First Holy Communion Celebrations are completed.

October Rosary: There will be communal Rosary daily before each Mass in October 25 minutes before Mass commences.

NOVEMBER DATE CLAIMER - Blessing of graves:

The annual blessing of the graves in Northwood Cemetery is still planned to take place on Saturday 4th November in the afternoon. There has been some additional guidance and we are waiting to hear from the cemetery authorities about their requirements / restrictions. It may be that we will need to provide an estimate of numbers ahead of time, so registration may be necessary. The 'Rule-of-Six' may apply at each graveside also. Watch this space!

TEST & TRACE:

We are reminded that we need to maintain all our positive efforts to keep St Matthew's COVID-safe. There is now an NHS App QR code available at the doors to the Church and the hall as an alternative to signing-in manually, please feel free to use it. Please remember also to flip the card in the bench where you have been sitting, so that our volunteer cleaners know which spaces have been used.

CONTACT US

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HA6 1DW

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Hall Bookings: [currently n/a]

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Fr Brian O'Mahony, Parish Priest:

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07919 842 767

Sunday School & Catechetics:

RE CO-ORDINATOR: EILEEN O'SULLIVAN

EILEENOSULLIVAN@RCDOW.ORG.UK

Safeguarding

PARISH REPRESENTATIVE:

APPOINTMENT AND TRAINING OF NEW
PARISH REPS. CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

Email:

NORTHWOODSG@SAFEGUARDRCADOW.ORG.UK

OR_SAFEGLDING@RCDOW.ORG.UK



St Matthew's Catholic Church, Northwood
32 Hallowell Road, Northwood, HA6 1DW

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE:

Many thanks to all who have returned their forms. We are now putting the class lists together. We have agreed with the catechists and helpers a tentative way forward that will include some combination of group-meeting and online learning. Information about the format and the timings of the classes will be available soon. .

1st Holy Communion and Confirmation celebrations in 2021: These programs will commence shortly after the celebrations of the Sacraments for this current year's group have taken place. Dates and times of the classes will soon be advertised.

200+ Club Fundraising initiative:

The **OCTOBER draw will take place this weekend after the 9am Mass**. Envelopes with your individual number inside, for those who have joined the club recently, are available at the back of the Church,

TAKE A WALK!

Some parishioners are keen to start a walking group in the parish to take advantage of some of the beautiful open spaces in our area. If you are keen to join in and maybe to meet new people socially, please contact Deidre or Ann through the parish office.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK, AND THOSE WHO HAVE DIED.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL:

Kathy Groegan, Barry Jervis, Margaret Wedgeworth, Wendy Hodkinson, Victor & Gilda Kumarathasan, as well as others for whom we have recently been praying together recently. We will happily add any requests for prayer to our sick-list, which will be updated weekly. Please contact us with any additional names and accept our apologies for anyone we have missed off it.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:

Mark Chan, Malcolm Coleman, Manuel Ferreira, Micheal McGinley, Michael Oliver Maguire, Bridget Teresa Vanderputt, Anne Catherine Barker, Sue Blue, as well as others for whom we have recently been praying together recently. Please contact us with any additional names you may wish to be added to this list which will be updated weekly, and accept our apologies for anyone we have missed off it.

AND THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS AROUND THIS TIME:

Peggy Lovett, Jo Hardcastle, David Skelton, John Obi, Ruth Franklin, Iris Lowther and Giovanni Salaroli

MASSES AND SERVICES THIS WEEK 29TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME (OCTOBER 18TH - 25TH)

SUNDAY 18th OCT	09.00	PEGGY LOVETT (ANNIV)
	11.00	ANTONIO MARTINS (ANNIV) <i>Celebration of First Holy Communion</i>
	18.00	MARY O'SULLIVAN (ANNIV)
MONDAY 19th	10:30	EMMANUEL VASSALLO RIP
	11:00-12:00	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
TUESDAY 20th	10:30	MARY REARDON & PETER REARDON (ANNIV)
	11:00-12:00	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
WEDNESDAY 21st	NO PUBLIC MASS TODAY SUE BLUES RIP	
THURSDAY 22nd	19:00	SPECIAL INTENTION (MICHAEL'S FAMILY)
	18:00-18:50	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
FRIDAY 23rd	10:30	RUTH FRANKLIN (ANNIV)
	11:00-12:00	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
SATURDAY 24th	10:30	MANUEL FERRIERA RIP (ANNIV)
	11:00-12:00	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
		<i>Confessions available</i>
	17:00-17:45	<i>Confessions available</i>
	[Sunday Vigil] 18:00	JOE DA CUNHA (ANNIV)
SUNDAY 25th OCT	30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Yr A)	
	9:00	RAUL DE LIMA (ANNIV)
	11:00	SEBASTIAN (SP. INTN) <i>Celebration of First Holy Communion</i>
	18.00	JOHN HARRINGTON RIP